41 Leicester, Feb. 19. '65.

Dear Mr. Garrison —

A note from O. Johnson, wh. I found waiting for me here yesterday says that it was quite convenient, to him, to postpone the Festival Report a week, and suggests that you will perhaps like to commence it on the outside of the Liberator, as last year, and thus give his compositors as well as yours a little more time; — in this case you would of course need the copy something earlier. "Will you give me a line, on receiving this, saying whether you will put it in part on the outside?" and when, — in any case, — you will need to have the copy in your hands? — I wrote to Mrs. Child, to say how gratified all concerned would be to have her undertake the writing of the Report; but she quite declines . to undertake it, and *advises* *that* *either* *you* or *I* *write* *it*, "and sign our names to it", as, otherwise, "she may be made to endorse what I (she) knows nothing about",

Now this is awkward, it seems to me. A Report of the Ladies' Festival, & confessedly not one of the ladies to write it! Besides I do not like to seem volunteering, or obtruding myself, to stand in the place of the Ladies of the Committee, I know you do not wish to write it;

– rather, that you strongly wish not to write it. In these circumstances I hardly know what to do. I am strongly inclined, so far as the matter is left to me, to write little or nothing, – but to arrange the letters sent, for publication, mention a few of the incidents of the evening perhaps, & send it to you for the needful filling up. What say you to that? I am wholly opposed to signing my name to the Report. I did not ask Mrs. C.'s advice about that, and am not inclined to take it; – still she is quite right in not choosing to be in any way compromised by what ~~the~~ others may write. How to escape the dilemma, I do not see. Do you?

— I have shown this to my wife, and she says _she_ will have no objection to signing the Report, & in this way ~~the~~ my difficulty may be obviated. — I should like to hear from you, however, _as to the time you must have the Copy._

— I enclose, cut from the N.Y. _Evening Post_, an extract from a Discourse of O. B. Frothingham, which may not have arrested your attention.

Truly Yrs,
S. May Jr

P.S. Johnson wishes some portion of the ~~Copy~~ proof slips sent to him (say by next Sunday night's Mail) so that his printers may go to work upon it Monday morning, — & to know, at same time, when he may expect the balance,